

*Extension of Sittings*

I also got the support of young people because the ones that leave university or college realize that there have been jobs in this country since 1984, and that is the reason why they supported me.

Finally, I had the decisive support—the kind of support all Conservatives had—the support of the community and of the people who sign the pay cheques of working Canadians, and I mean business people, chambers of commerce, those who know what exports to the United States mean. I got their support and today I want to pay them public tribute and thank the residents of my riding.

Now to get back to the issue at hand. Here we are again trying to re-open the debate of the famous question of free trade, a question we are debating for the information of new Members, a question which is the topic of debate by the House and by technocrats, a question which was raised during the last campaign. Canadians who want to listen and learn have been able to get all the facts about free trade over the last two and a half years. And before the election the Leader of the Liberal Party (Mr. Turner) had said to them: Let the Canadian people decide.

As it happened, the socialist leader shared his views and he too could hardly wait for the election call. The Liberal leader had said: Once the people have decided, the senators, my Liberal senators, the senators appointed by Trudeau and others, will say yes if Canadians say yes. The day after the election, Madam Speaker, we heard the Liberal leader say: Yes, everything is fine now, Canadians have spoken. We also heard the socialist leader say: Yes, Canadians have made their choice, we will not stand in the way of that legislation. But then something happened.

They received a letter, Madam Speaker, an eight-page letter from the man who pulls the strings, from Bob White, president of the Canadian Auto Workers, who can order them around, because he spent \$2 million dollars towards their campaign. His union financed a third of the socialist election campaign, and that amount of \$2 million dollars does not include all the equipment, material, stationery, telephone lines, and personnel provided. They will deny it, Madam Speaker. But you will only have to look at the report that will be tabled by the chairman of the Election Expenses Committee in a few months. They will maximize all those services provided under the table in order to get from the Government all the subsidies, that is all the money they can, to finance their election campaign. On the one hand, they pretend that they received no support from

the various unions, and on the other hand, after the election, they maximize all their campaign expenses in order to be able to beg for money from the Canadian Government.

They maximize what they claim to be election expenses. So, they received a letter from Bob White which changed their whole attitude. They also got a letter from the Steel Workers' Union, the most important union in Canada. Those two unions expressed their dissatisfaction, saying that free trade will cost them their jobs. But Bob White's people are the best paid workers in Canada, the only ones who have been enjoying certain advantages linked to free trade, since 1985.

So, Madam Speaker, as you see, we got a very clear message from the electorate. On November 21st, Opposition parties said: If the vote is in support of free trade, if you Conservatives are re-elected, we will expedite the bill. But today they contest that, suggesting that the people did not all vote for free trade. Maybe the majority did not support free trade. The majority supported the Conservative Government. It told us Conservatives: Thank you for providing us with excellent management! And indeed we just saw that in the Auditor General's report the management of Government departments has significantly improved—they should be listening, Madam Speaker, because it is for their benefit that I repeat this—a significant improvement in this Government's management. Coming from the Auditor General of Canada. People thanked us for that. People thanked us also for facilitating the creation of 1,300,000 more jobs in Canada—1,000 jobs per day under a Conservative Government. They said thank you on November 21.

People thanked us on November 21 for achieving national reconciliation, Quebec's return to this great country. Everyone supported then the so-called Meech Lake Agreement. But since then the socialists' pettiness has become evident across the land because they are once more bent, on dividing the country, being dissatisfied with the elections results. They are aiming at preventing Quebec from being a living, contributing part of this country. Such is the essence of their message, the thrust of their actions.

Madam Speaker, we received a vote of thanks for Meech Lake and national reconciliation, and we hope that those people over there will rise above petty partisanship and help us complete the finalization of that matter with the two last provinces.